

## **Mayor Mark Mallory**

## City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street, Room 150, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 Date: May 9, 2006

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## Mayor Announces "City Hall Works" Initiative Mallory tasks Berding with heading governmental review

Cincinnati – Today at his regularly scheduled press conference, Mayor Mallory announced a new initiative to make City Hall "work" for Cincinnati. The goal of the "City Hall Works" Initiative is to improve the quality and the reliability of service that citizens receive from city government. Mayor Mallory has asked Councilman Jeff Berding to lead an advisory committee that will make recommendations about how to improve city services.

"We are going to make customer service a priority at City Hall," Mayor Mallory said. "When citizens come to City Hall, they should leave with a good feeling. Whether they get the outcome that they are looking for, they should always feel like they were treated fairly and with respect."

"City Hall Works" will begin with an in-depth review of government operations performed by an outside consultant. Berding and the advisory committee will analyze the results of an initial performance audit, which is currently being conducted. The committee will then make determinations on areas needing further review and reform, make advisory decisions on completing further analysis, and finally, make recommendations to the City Manager, Mayor and members of City Council of its findings.

Berding said, "I campaigned on the idea that we need to make City Hall work better for Cincinnatians. Citizens need to know that their tax dollars are being spent efficiently, effectively, and for the services they value. As chair of the Rules and Government Operations committee, I plan to focus our energy on getting this initiative underway and done right."

City Hall Works was funded in the 2006 continuation budget passed by Council in December. The City Manager will appoint the members of the advisory committee. The group will report back with their initial recommendations by October 1, 2006 and shall complete their work by December 1, 2006.